

## Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9009

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 5853

NODIS

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: PORG PFOR VE ENRG

SUBJ: MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS REPLY TO  
SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

REF: SECTO 02017

1. ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER JOHN RAPHAEL CALLED ME IN TODAY TO DELIVER ESCOVAR SALOM'S RESPONSE TO THE SECRETARY'S LETTER OF MAY 28. (WE ARE POUCHING THE ORIGINAL). EARLIER IN THE DAY I SAW THE FOREIGN MINISTER OFF ON HIS BRIEF VISIT TO THE US. HE TOLD ME THAT THE RESPONSE I WOULD BE GETTING HAD BEEN WORKED OUT WITH THE PRESIDENT. THERE FOLLOWS AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S LETTER.

2. BEGIN QUOTE: MR SECRETARY OF STATE: I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR LETTER IN WHICH YOU EXPLAIN YOUR POINTS OF VIEW CONCERNING THE PREPARATORY MEETING IN PARIS BETWEEN THE REPRESENTATIVES OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, AND PETROLEUM-PRODUCING COUNTRIES.

3. QTE. CONCERNING THE POINTS WHICH YOU RAISED, I AM PLEASED BY THE POSITIVE POSITION YOU TAKE IN TRYING TO VIEW THE PROBLEM MORE AS A COMBINATION OF THE FACTS OF WHICH IT IS COMPOSED RATHER THAN FROM A PARTICULAR AND EXCLUSIVE PERSPECTIVE WHICH WOULD NOT LEND ITSELF TO A COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION.

4. QTE. YOU KNOW THE POSITION OF MY GOVT AND THE IMPORTANCE  
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WE HAVE PLACED ON THE LINKAGE BETWEEN THE COST OF ENERGY AND THAT

OF OTHER RAW MATERIALS AND MANUFACTURED GOODS. WE WELL KNOW THAT THIS COMPLICATED PROBLEM IMPLIES A METHOD WHICH AVOIDS SEGMENTING THE SUBJECTS WHICH WOULD BE DEALT WITH. IN THIS SENSE, WE VIEW AS POSITIVE THE POINT OF VIEW YOU EXPRESSED CONCERNING THE PREPARATORY MEETING. WE THINK THIS CONCEPT CAN BE IMPROVED UPON AND MADE MORE PRECISE, BUT IN ANY EVENT IT CONSTITUTES A POSSIBLE POINT OF DEPARTURE.

5. QTE I WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE, MR SECRETARY, THAT WE BELIEVE THAT THIS IS A SUBJECT REQUIRING DECISIONS AND THAT IT IS TIME TO MOVE RAPIDLY FROM WORDS TO ACTIONS. IN THAT REGARD IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO THINK AHEAD ABOUT SUCH VERY IMPORTANT INITIATIVES AS THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER OF COMPUTATION (CENTRO INTERNACIONAL DE COMPUTACION) AND ALL MATTERS RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO SET IN MOTION THE HEMISPHERIC CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION. IN OTHER WORDS, MR SECRETARY, WE BELIEVE THAT ABOVE ALL WE ARE IMPELLED BY THE NEED FOR ACTION. OUR PRIOR STEP WOULD HAVE TO BE, AS YOU SAID, TO RECONVENE THE PREPARATORY MEETING UNDER THE SAME INITIAL UNDERSTANDING, WITH THE NECESSARY BROADNESS OF MANDATE SO AS NOT TO SEPARATE RAW MATERIALS WHICH ARE INEVITABLY LINKED TO THOSE OF ENERGY. ("1A AMPLITUD NECESARIA PARA NO SEPARAR LAS MATERIAS PRIMAS QUE ESTAN INEVITABLEMENTE LIGADAS A LAS DE LA ENERGIA.")

6. QTE I AGREE WITH YOU THAT THE DEBATE SHOULD AVOID THE PITFALLS WHICH COMPLICATED CONCRETE AGREEMENTS IN VARIOUS UNCTAD MEETINGS.

7. QTE I APPLAUD, ALSO, THE SPIRIT OF CONCILIATION AND INNOVATION WHICH IS EVIDENT IN YOUR LETTER. ANY EFFORT WHICH IGNORES THE FUNDAMENTAL UNITY THAT THESE MATERIALS CONSTITUTE WILL BE USELESS FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING THE RELATIONS BETWEEN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND THE INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS.

8. QTE THE GOVT OF VENEZUELA IS PREPARED TO CONTRIBUTE WITHOUT DOGMATISM AND WITHOUT RIGIDITIES TO FINDING HARMONIOUS SOLUTIONS WHICH WILL FACILITATE

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A MORE JUST WORLD EQUILIBRIUM IN THE FRAMEWORK OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER.

9. QTE IT WILL BE PLEASING FOR US ON A SUBSEQUENT OCCASION, TO RECEIVE UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON IF IT SHOULD BE NECESSARY TO COORDINATE IMPRESSIONS WITHIN THE GENERAL CONTEXT OF THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND NON-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. WE SHALL MAINTAIN THESE

CONTACTS WITH YOUR AMBASSADOR IN CARACAS IN ORDER TO  
FACILITATE THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND AGREE UPON A  
POSSIBLE DATE WHICH WOULD BE CONVENIENT FOR ALL THE  
OBJECTIVES TO WHICH WE ARE MAKING REFERENCE.

10. QTE I TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS  
MY WARM SALUTATIONS TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE WITH THE  
SENTIMENTS OF MY MOST AFFECTIONATE CONSIDERATION AND  
PERSONAL ESTEEM /S/ RAMON ESCOBAR SALOM, MINISTER  
OF FOREIGN RELATIONS OF VENEZUELA. END QUOTE.  
SHLAUDEMANN

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